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(54) MAGNET AND PRODUCTION THEREOF

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To provide an R-T-B based anisotropic magnet having high coercive force, remanent magnetic flux density and dimensional accuracy along with an R-T-B based anisotropic magnet excellent significantly in corrosion resistance.

CONSTITUTION: A molding alloy comprising R (rare earth element), T (Fe, or at least one kind of Co, Ni or Cu and Fe) and B and containing a phase composed substantially of R2T14 is fused into an alloy rich in R and a molten allay is poured into a molted item of molding alloy powder thus producing a magnet. Corrosion resistance is enhanced significantly by a magnet containing a granular main phase composed substantially of R2T14B phase and a subphase surrounding the main phase wherein the subphase contains an R3Co phase and/or an RCu phase with the ratio of the subphase being set in the range of 20-40vol.%.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Industrial Application] This invention relates to the good rare earth magnet and its manufacture approach of dimensional accuracy.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] As a rare earth magnet which has high performance, the thing of energy product 32MGOe is mass-produced with the Sm-Co system magnet by powder-metallurgy processing. Moreover, R-T-B system magnets (T is Fe, or Fe and Co), such as a Nd2 Fe14B magnet, are developed in recent years, and the sintered magnet is indicated by JP,59-46008,A. A R-T-B system magnet has a cheap raw material compared with a Sm-Co system magnet. The powder metallurgy process (dissolution -> hardener casting -> ingot coarse-grinding -> pulverizing -> shaping -> sintering -> magnet) of the conventional Sm-Co system is applicable to manufacture of a R-T-B system sintered magnet.

[0003] With the R-T-B system magnet, the BONDIDDO magnet which combined the magnet powder other than a sintered magnet with the resin binder metallurgy group binder is also put in practical use. Since the dimension in the case of shaping is maintained mostly, a BONDIDDO magnet has high dimensional accuracy and does not need configuration processing after manufacture. However, since the polycrystal particle which carried out rapid solidification using the single rolling method etc. is used for the BONDIDDO magnet of the R-T-B system industrialized as shown in JP,1-54457,B, it turns into an isotropic magnet (a maximum energy product 5 - 10MGOe extent). As shown in JP,4-20242,B, after carrying out optically uniaxial compression with a hotpress and carrying out densification of the powder which carried out rapid solidification as magnet powder for anisotropy BONDIDDO magnets, what performed optically uniaxial plastic working (Diapp set) at the elevated temperature, anisotropy-ized, and ground the obtained anisotropy green compact is proposed. However, this anisotropy-ized process will require time and effort, and a production cost will go up substantially. Moreover, elevated-temperature demagnetization will arise in the case of a hotpress and the Diapp set. In addition, although using the pulverized powder of an anisotropy sintered magnet for a BONDIDDO magnet is also considered, since coercive force and a remanence ratio will deteriorate extremely if a sintered compact is ground, the property as a magnet is not acquired. In addition, although the pulverized powder of the magnet object manufactured in casting / hot rolling process is also proposed as a raw material of an anisotropy BONDIDDO magnet, as well as the case where a sintered compact is ground since degradation of the coercive force by grinding is large, the charge of real lumber has not become.

[0004] Thus, it is very difficult to anisotropy-ize, maintaining high coercive force with a BONDIDDO magnet. And since the rate of the magnet powder occupied to the whole magnet has a limit, it is difficult to obtain a high residual magnetic flux density.

[0005] On the other hand, a high property is acquired in order to obtain an anisotropic magnet easily in order to fabricate in a field the powder which consists of a single crystal particle substantially in a R-T-B system sintered magnet, and not to use a binder moreover. However, in a sintering process, a Plastic solid contracts remarkably to sintering reaction time, and since the contraction is uneven, maintenance of the dimensional accuracy of a Plastic solid is difficult. This contraction changes with the amount of preferred orientation of the particle in a Plastic solid, dispersion of a consistency, etc.

In an anisotropy sintered magnet, contraction differs towards intersecting perpendicularly with the direction of an easy axis, and it. For example, the consistencies of a Plastic solid are 4.3 g/cm³. Solving, the consistencies after sintering are 7.55 g/cm³. Reaching, contraction will become about 15% in a direction vertical to it about 22% in the direction of an easy axis, and will also contract 30 - 40 volume % extent as a whole.

[0006] If the pressure at the time of fabricating magnet powder is generally made high, the consistency of a Plastic solid will become high, contraction at the time of sintering will become low in connection with it, but contraction and deformation do not decrease, so that the dimensional accuracy generally demanded is satisfied. Especially this inclination is remarkable with a radial anisotropy ring-like magnet or a polar anisotropy ring-like magnet, and with these conventional anisotropy ring-like magnets, since the grinding of inner skin, a peripheral face, and a vertical side is needed regardless of compacting pressure, lowering of productivity, loss of the magnet ingredient by grinding, etc. arose, and it has caused the cost rise.

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] The object of this invention has coercive force and a high residual magnetic flux density, it is offering a R-T-B system anisotropic magnet with good dimensional accuracy moreover, and other objects are that corrosion resistance offers a very good R-T-B system anisotropic magnet.

[8000]

[Means for Solving the Problem] Such an object is attained by this invention of following the (1) - (21).

- (1) R (R is at least one sort of the rare earth elements containing Y), T (T) The alloy for Plastic solids containing the phase which contains B and consists of R2 T14B substantially and it is Fe or is at least one sort of Co, nickel, and Cu, and Fe, R -- containing -- R2 T14B -- R -- the manufacture approach of the magnet characterized by carrying out infiltrating of the fused alloy for infiltrating to the Plastic solid of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids using the rich alloy for infiltrating, and obtaining a magnet.
- (2) The manufacture approach of the magnet the above (1) that the melting point of the alloy for infiltrating is 1000 degrees C or less.
- (3) The above (1) with the melting point of the alloy for infiltrating lower than the heat shrink initiation temperature of said Plastic solid, or the manufacture approach of the magnet of (2).
- (4) The manufacture approach of one magnet of above-mentioned (1) (3) which carries out temperature up where said Plastic solid and the alloy for infiltrating are contacted, and fuses the alloy for infiltrating.
- (5) The consistencies of said Plastic solid are 4.0 g/cm³. The above (1) which it is above The manufacture approach of one magnet of (4).
- (6) The manufacture approach of one magnet of above-mentioned (1) (5) which manufactures the magnet whose relative density is 95% or more.
- (7) a Plastic solid -- ** -- an alloy -- R -- 26 38 -- % of the weight -- B -- 0.9 three -- % of the weight -- containing -- the remainder -- substantial -- T -- it is -- the above -- (-- one --) (-- six --) -- either -- a magnet -- manufacture -- an approach .
- (8) The manufacture approach of one magnet of above-mentioned (1) (7) that Nd+Pr occupies 50% of the weight or more of R of the alloy for Plastic solids.
- (9) The manufacture approach of one magnet of above-mentioned (1) (8) that Fe+Co occupies 50% of the weight or more of T.
- (10) the mean particle diameter of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids -- 0.1-50 micrometers it is -- the manufacture approach of one magnet of above-mentioned (1) (9).
- (11) The manufacture approach of one magnet of above-mentioned (1) (10) that the alloy for infiltrating contains R 40 to 99% of the weight.
- (12) The manufacture approach of the magnet the above (11) that the remainder of the alloy for infiltrating is M (M is at least one sort of Fe, Co, nickel, Cu, aluminum, Sn, Ga, and Ag) substantially.
- (13) The manufacture approach of the magnet the above (12) that it changes to a part of M, and these sum total contents are 3 or less % of the weight of the alloys for infiltrating including at least one

sort of B, Si, and C.

- (14) The manufacture approach of one magnet of above-mentioned (1) (13) that said Plastic solid is fabricated in a field.
- (15) The manufacture approach of one magnet of above-mentioned (1) (14) which heat-treats at temperature higher than the melting point of the alloy for infiltrating to the Plastic solid after infiltrating.
- (16) The manufacture approach of the magnet the above (15) that the retention temperature in the case of said heat treatment is 800 degrees C or more.
- (17) It is R2 T14 B phase (R is at least one sort of the rare earth elements containing Y T) substantially. The main phase of the shape of a grain which is Fe or consists of being at least one sort of Co, nickel, and Cu, and Fe, R2 T14B -- R -- the magnet characterized by the rate of the subphase in a magnet being 20 to 40 volume % including an R3 Co phase and/or a RCu phase including the subphase which is rich and surrounds said main phase into a subphase.
- (18) The magnet of the above (17) with which Co of an R3 Co phase reaches in part at least, and a part of Cu [at least] of a RCu phase is permuted by Fe.
- (19) The above (17) by which a part of Co [at least] of an R3 Co phase is permuted by Cu, and a part of Cu [at least] of a RCu phase is permuted by Co, or (18) magnets.
- (20) A subphase is R3. A phase (Co1-w-x Few Cux) (0.01<=w<=0.3, 0.01<=x<=0.3) and R (Cu1-y-z Coy Fez) phase (0.01<=y<=0.3, 0.01<=z<=0.3) are included. The magnet of the above (17) whose sum total content of these phases in a magnet the content of these phases in a magnet is one to 30 volume %, respectively, and is 20 to 40 volume %.
- (21) The magnet of above-mentioned (17) (20) which contains B for R 0.3 to 6% of the weight 30 to 60% of the weight.

[Function and Effect] It is reported in detail in various papers etc. that the coercive force of a Nd2 Fe14B system sintered magnet is dependent on existence of Nd rich phase of a grain boundary. Therefore, it becomes important to sinter so that Nd rich phase may cover to homogeneity the crystal grain which consists of Nd2 Fe14 B phases, i.e., to make homogeneity distribute Nd rich phase in a sintered magnet.

[0010] the Plastic solid of the powder which has the phase which consists of R2 T14B substantially in this invention -- R -- it carries out infiltrating of the rich alloy for infiltrating. Infiltrating in this case is infiltrating the fused alloy into a Plastic solid. To the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids, since wettability is very good, the opening between the particles in a Plastic solid is filled up with the alloy for infiltrating of the liquid phase for a short time. For this reason, R rich phase important for coercive force generating is not unevenly distributed in a magnet, and high coercive force is acquired. And the consistency of the magnet manufactured by infiltrating becomes equivalent to the consistency of the magnet sintered nearly thoroughly. If it puts in another way, the magnet which does not almost have the open hole which leads to the magnet exterior will be obtained. For this reason, sufficient rust-proofing effectiveness is acquired by nickel plating, resin paint, etc. like a sintered magnet.

[0011] Before and after infiltrating, since the dimension of a Plastic solid hardly changes, it does not need to perform the grinding process for size adjustment after infiltrating. Moreover, since the contraction difference resulting from anisotropy grant hardly arises even when the Plastic solid fabricated among the field is used, a magnetic crack and a magnetic crack can be prevented.

[0012] the magnet manufactured by this invention -- R -- although magnetic properties become low rather than the conventional R-T-B system high density sintered magnet since the ratio of a rich grain boundary phase (subphase) is comparatively high, it becomes higher than the BONDIDDO magnet {(BH) max =about 15 MGOe(s)} of a Sm-Co system. And a R-T-B system magnet has a cheap raw material compared with a Sm-Co system magnet. Therefore, the magnet manufactured by this invention is suitable conventionally as a substitute of the Sm-Co system BONDIDDO magnet used for the application as which the height of dimensional accuracy is required.

[0013] The magnet of this invention contains the main phase of the shape of a grain which consists of R2 T14 B phase, and the subphase which is R Rich and surrounds said main phase rather than R2 T14B. In this subphase, an R3 Co phase and/or a RCu phase are contained. These phases raise

magnetic corrosion resistance. The magnet of this invention has the high rate that a subphase occupies, and since it can moreover do with the configuration in which these phases occupy most subphases, corrosion resistance becomes very good. Such a magnet can be easily manufactured by choosing the presentation of the alloy for infiltrating suitably in the manufacture approach of this invention mentioned above.

[0014] By the way, after carrying out press forming of the magnet powder in the approach of manufacturing a RFeB system magnet with powder-metallurgy processing, it considers as a porous sintered compact in a 400-900-degree C temperature requirement, and the approach of carrying out fixed time amount immersion of it at the melting alloy Ndx Fe 1-x (x=0.65-0.85) is indicated by JP,3-80508,A. This approach aims at suppressing the deformation after sintering resulting from the anisotropy of the heat shrink by field orientation. However, if it heat-treats at 400-900 degrees C to a Plastic solid like an approach given [this] in an official report, magnetic properties will deteriorate, and magnetic properties equivalent to the magnet by this invention are not acquired. When heat-treating above 800 degrees C like the example of this official report, sintering progresses and it becomes impossible and to make contraction small like this invention.

[0015] Moreover, in the meta-RUBON dead magnet which used the metal (alloy containing simple substances, such as aluminum, In, Bi, Sn, Zn, and Pb, or these) of a low-melt point point for the binder, the particle which has coercive force usable as a magnet is only combined with the low-melt point point metal. Since the pulverized powder of a Nd2 Fe14B system casting alloy shows only the coercive force below 1 kOe extent, it cannot carry out [magnet]-izing by the same approach as the conventional meta-RUBON dead magnet.

[0016]

[Elements of the Invention] Hereafter, the concrete configuration of this invention is explained to a detail.

[0017] In this invention, a magnet is manufactured by infiltrating the Plastic solid of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids in the fused alloy for infiltrating using the alloy for Plastic solids, and the alloy for infiltrating.

[0018] The alloy for <alloy for Plastic solids> Plastic solids contains R (R is at least one sort of the rare earth elements containing Y), T (T is Fe or is at least one sort of Co, nickel, and Cu, and Fe), and B, and contains the phase which consists of R2 T14B substantially. Although what is necessary is just to determine the concrete presentation of the alloy for Plastic solids suitably in consideration of the presentation of the alloy for infiltrating etc. according to the magnet property made into the object, the remainder shall be T substantially about R, including 26 - 38 % of the weight, and B 0.9 to 3% of the weight, and the remainder shall be T substantially 27 to 33% of the weight about R more preferably, including B 1.0 to 1.5% of the weight.

[0019] Although R is Y, a lanthanide, and actinide, in order to obtain a high residual magnetic flux density, Nd and/or Pr are preferably used for it. One or more sorts other than these, such as Tb, Dy, La, Ce, Gd, Er, Ho, Eu, Pm, Tm, Yb, and Y, may be used. The thing of R of the alloy for Plastic solids for which especially Nd+Pr occupies 80 % of the weight or more 50% of the weight or more is desirable. Mixture, such as a misch metal, can also be used as a raw material of rare earth elements. The phase which is rich in iron when there are too few R contents in the alloy for Plastic solids deposits, high coercive force is no longer acquired, and if there are too many R contents, a high residual magnetic flux density will no longer be obtained.

[0020] In an R2 T14B system sintered magnet, since a sintering reaction advances by R rich phase's turning into the liquid phase, and flowing, more generally than R2 T14B, raw material powder is made into R Rich. this invention -- the Plastic solid in the end for Plastic solids of an alloy powder -- R -- since R rich phase for coercive force generating is formed in the perimeter of a particle in a Plastic solid by carrying out infiltrating of the rich alloy for infiltrating -- the presentation of the alloy for Plastic solids -- R2 T14B -- R -- don't suppose that it is rich. On the contrary, if R ratio of the alloy for Plastic solids is too high, the heat shrink initiation temperature of a Plastic solid becomes low, and in case it is infiltrating, contraction will become large a little.

[0021] If there are too few B contents in the alloy for Plastic solids, high coercive force will no longer be acquired, and if there are too many B contents, a high residual magnetic flux density will no longer be obtained.

[0022] With the alloy for Plastic solids, the thing of T for which Fe+Co occupies especially 90 % of the weight or more 50% of the weight or more is desirable. If the ratio of Fe+Co in T is too small, when it magnet-izes, saturation magnetization will become small, and a high residual magnetic flux density will no longer be obtained.

[0023] Moreover, it is desirable that Fe/(Fe+Co) is 70 % of the weight or more with the alloy for Plastic solids. When there was little Fe and it magnet-izes, a high residual magnetic flux density is

no longer obtained.

[0024] Although elements, such as aluminum, C, Si, Cr, Mn, Mg, Nb, Sn, W, V, Zr, Ti, and Mo, may be added for an others and coercive force improvement, a corrosion-resistant improvement, etc. of each above-mentioned element, if an addition exceeds 6 % of the weight, lowering of a residual magnetic flux density will pose a problem.

[0025] In the magnet, unescapable impurities, minute amount additives, etc., such as oxygen besides

these elements, may be contained.

[0026] Since it is desirable that it is the diameter of crystal grain which serves as a single crystal particle when disintegration is carried out since it fabricates in this invention, carrying out orientation of the end for Plastic solids of an alloy powder in a field, but crystal grain should just be carrying out orientation within the particle even if it is a polycrystal particle, the diameter of average crystal grain is 3-600 micrometers. It can choose from the range where extent is large. [0027] the mean particle diameter of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids -- desirable -- 0.1-50 micrometers more -- desirable -- 1-10 micrometers it is . Since it will be hard coming to go up the consistency of a Plastic solid, and a high residual magnetic flux density will be hard to be obtained and the amount of oxygen in powder will increase if mean particle diameter is too small, high coercive force becomes is hard to be acquired depending on balance with the amount of the alloy for infiltrating used. On the other hand, if mean particle diameter is too large, the ratio of a polycrystal particle will increase and a high residual magnetic flux density will become is hard to be obtained. [0028] Especially the manufacture approach of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids is not limited, but may use any, such as the approach of carrying out disintegration of the casting alloy by hydrogen absorption grinding etc., and a reduction diffusion method, and may use the thing which ground and carried out disintegration of the sintered magnet, or the grinding waste of a sintered magnet. Since the polycrystal particle which consists the sintered magnet anisotropy-ized by field orientation of grinding or crystal grain of a minor diameter by which orientation was carried out when carrying out grinding can be obtained, the magnet of a high residual magnetic flux density and high coercive force is obtained. Moreover, since grinding waste has many oxygen contents, the heat shrink initiation temperature when considering as a Plastic solid becomes high. For this reason, even when the alloy for infiltrating with the high melting point is used, contraction can be made small, and the degree of freedom of ingredient selection becomes large.

[0029] the alloy for <alloy for infiltrating> infiltrating -- R -- containing -- R2 T14B -- R -- it is a

rich alloy.

[0030] Since it is desirable that the temperature of a Plastic solid is also comparable as the alloy for infiltrating in case it infiltrates, temperature up also of the Plastic solid is carried out. Therefore, when temperature up of the melting point of the alloy for infiltrating is carried out to the melting point, contraction of a Plastic solid should just be settled in the range of desired. Although what is necessary is just to specifically determine experimentally, in using the above-mentioned alloy for Plastic solids, it makes 1000 degrees C or less into 700 degrees C or less more preferably. [0031] And the alloy for infiltrating with the melting point lower than the heat shrink initiation temperature of a Plastic solid is used to make contraction of a Plastic solid remarkably small. In addition, the heat shrink initiation temperature of the Plastic solid of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids is temperature to which a Plastic solid starts contraction physically by liquid phase appearance, and it measures with a thermomechanical analysis machine (Thermomechanical Analyzer) etc. With the Plastic solid of the powder of the above-mentioned alloy for Plastic solids, although heat shrink initiation temperature changes with a presentation, programming rates, etc., it is usually about 650-1050 degrees C, for example, it is 5-10 degrees C / min. In the case where uniform temperature up is carried out, 29 or less % of the weight, then heat shrink initiation temperature can be made into 800 degrees C or more for the amount of R.

[0032] 300 degrees C or more of melting points of the alloy for infiltrating are more preferably made into 400 degrees C or more. If the melting point is too low, the amount of carbon residue in a magnet will increase from relation with the decomposition temperature of the organic substance, such as a wax used as lubricant or a binder, at the time of shaping, and coercive force will become low at it. Moreover, before the water of adsorption which the end for Plastic solids of an alloy powder has has fallen out, infiltrating will start, and coercive force lowering is caused also from this point. [0033] In addition, when the alloy for Plastic solids of a presentation almost equal to R2 T14B (at the time of R=Nd and T=Fe 26.7-% of the weight Nd-72.3-% of the weight Fe-1.0 % of the weight B) is used, measurement may be difficult in not accepting heat shrink initiation temperature substantially.

[0034] Although the presentation of the alloy for infiltrating is not limited especially, it is [that what is necessary is just to determine that the melting point needed is obtained] desirable that M (M is at least one sort of Fe, Co, nickel, Cu, aluminum, Sn, Ga, and Ag) is included in addition to R. As R, at least one sort of Nd, Pr, Dy, and Ce, especially at least one sort of Nd, Pr, and Dy are desirable. As M, at least one sort of Fe, Co, Cu, and aluminum, especially at least one sort of Fe, Co, and Cu are more desirable.

[0035] R content of the alloy for infiltrating is 60 - 90 % of the weight more preferably 40 to 99% of the weight. If there is too little R, it will become difficult to make the melting point low, and the magnetic improvement effectiveness in coercive force will also serve as imperfection. Even if there is too much R or it is R simple substance, the melting point will become high too. In addition, as for the remainder, it is desirable that it is Above M substantially. However, it may change to a part of M, and at least one sort of the element of B, Si, C, or others may be added. However, as for the sum total content of these elements, it is desirable to carry out to 3 or less % of the weight of the alloy for infiltrating. Moreover, unescapable impurities and additional trace elements, such as oxygen besides these, may be contained.

[0036] Although the alloy for infiltrating may be bulk-like and may be powdered, the alloy for infiltrating uses bulk-like a thing or coarse powder preferably, in order that many R contents may tend to oxidize.

[0037] Especially the manufacture approach of the alloy for infiltrating is not limited, but may use any, such as casting and a melt quenching method.

[0038] Although the powder of the alloy for <shaping> Plastic solids is usually pressed like magnet powder molding in the case of sintered magnet manufacture, it may perform injection molding, extrusion molding, etc. in this invention. In order to manufacture an anisotropic magnet, it fabricates in a field and orientation of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids is carried out.

[0039] Since a residual magnetic flux density usually becomes high so that a Plastic solid consistency is high although especially the consistency of a Plastic solid is not limited, Plastic solid consistencies are 4.0 g/cm3 preferably. They are 4.5 g/cm3 more preferably above. It considers as the above.

[0040] It is not based on the height of a Plastic solid consistency, but relative density usually becomes 95% or more after infiltrating. The relative density in this case is the ratio of the consistency of the magnet to the magnet consistency when assuming that all the holes in a Plastic solid were filled up with the alloy for infiltrating manufactured actually.

[0041] What is necessary is not to limit especially the compacting pressure in the case of compression molding, but just to determine suitably that the Plastic solid of a desired consistency is acquired.

[0042] In addition, when performing injection molding and extrusion molding, in order to raise firmness, it is desirable to add a binder to the powder for Plastic solids. As a binder, although usually used for the powder-compacting magnet, the powder-compacting core, etc., you may be any, for example, a wax etc. can be used preferably.

[0043] Magnetic field strength at the time of shaping is usually preferably carried out to more than 15 kOe more than 10 kOe. The field impressed at the time of shaping may be a direct-current field, or may be a pulsed magnetic field, and may use these together. The pressure impression direction and the field impression direction can apply this invention also to the so-called, vertical magnetic field fabricating method mostly in agreement also at the so-called horizontal magnetic field

fabricating method the pressure impression direction and the field impression direction intersect perpendicularly mostly.

[0044] Shaping is usually performed below 50 degrees C, in order to avoid powdered oxidation. [0045] It performs <infiltrating> infiltrating by heating the alloy for infiltrating to more than the melting point.

[0046] Although especially the heating means of the alloy for infiltrating is not limited but any, such as an electric furnace and a high-frequency-heating furnace, may be used, it is desirable to use a means, for example, an electric furnace, by which a Plastic solid can also be heated simultaneously. By heating a Plastic solid to temperature equivalent to the alloy for infiltrating, it can perform uniform infiltrating to a Plastic solid.

[0047] Especially the concrete infiltrating approach is not limited. For example, any, such as an approach immersed in the melt of the alloy for infiltrating in a Plastic solid, and an approach of filling a Plastic solid with melt, the approach of dipping some Plastic solids in melt and sucking up in a Plastic solid, may be used. However, preferably, it is in the condition of having contacted the Plastic solid and the alloy for infiltrating, and the approach of fusing the alloy for infiltrating is used. It is desirable to lay the alloy for infiltrating on a Plastic solid, and to specifically fuse this. Although the approach immersed in the melt of the alloy for infiltrating in a Plastic solid may be used, after pulling up from melt, in order for the alloy for infiltrating to solidify all over the front face of a Plastic solid in this case, it is necessary to establish the process which carries out grinding of it and removes it. On the other hand, if only an initial complement lays the alloy for infiltrating on a Plastic solid and fuses it, since the alloy for infiltrating hardly remains in the Plastic solid front face after infiltrating or it only remains slightly on the Plastic solid top face, a process can be simplified. And by this approach, at the time of melting, since the alloy for infiltrating does not touch except a Plastic solid, it can prevent mixing of an impurity.

[0048] Although what is necessary is just to use the alloy for infiltrating of a complement in order to fill the opening in a Plastic solid at least when using the approach of laying the alloy for infiltrating on a Plastic solid, a practical a little superfluous amount is used. In addition, the voidage of a Plastic solid is computable from a presentation and Plastic solid consistency of the alloy for Plastic solids. [0049] Although especially the gestalt that lays the alloy for infiltrating on a Plastic solid is not limited, for example, specified quantity weighing capacity of the debris of coarse powder or an ingot may be carried out and it may be laid, preferably, the coarse powder of the alloy for infiltrating is fabricated and this is laid. By using the alloy for infiltrating as a Plastic solid, management of the amount used becomes exact and easy. In this case, as for the Plastic solid of the alloy for infiltrating, it is desirable to have the underside of this dimension mostly by the shape of isomorphism with the top face of the Plastic solid of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids. For example, in producing a ring-like magnet, it also makes the Plastic solid of the alloy for infiltrating into the shape of a ring. Thereby, it can carry out infiltrating to a Plastic solid to homogeneity more. In addition, the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids and the coarse powder of the alloy for infiltrating may be fabricated in one like 2 color shaping.

[0050] Since the alloy for infiltrating of the liquid phase has the very good wettability to the end for Plastic solids of an alloy powder, it sinks into a Plastic solid promptly after melting. Therefore, if it only infiltrates, after heating to more than the melting point, it is not necessary to perform temperature maintenance but, and in order to raise coercive force and a residual magnetic flux density, it is desirable to continue temperature up further and to perform after infiltrating, heat treatment held to temperature higher than the melting point of the alloy for infiltrating. Although the retention temperature in this heat treatment changes also with melting points of the alloy for infiltrating, it is 900 degrees C or more more preferably 800 degrees C or more. However, in order to control the grain growth of R2 T14 B phase used as the magnetic main phase, as for retention temperature, it is desirable to consider as 1100 degrees C or less. In this heat treatment, the time amount which performs temperature maintenance is 0.5 - 8 hours preferably. If this time amount is too short, the effectiveness by heat treatment will become inadequate, and if too long, the grain growth of R2 T14 B phase will become remarkable. Even if it performs such heat treatment, the Plastic solid after infiltrating is hardly contracted.

[0051] In addition, the above-mentioned heat treatment may be performed once it lowers the

temperature after infiltrating.

[0052] Aging treatment may be performed after infiltrating or the above-mentioned heat treatment. Aging treatment is heat treatment with retention temperature lower than the above-mentioned heat treatment, and can raise coercive force by aging treatment. 400-800 degrees C of retention temperature in the case of aging treatment are 500-700 degrees C more preferably. Moreover, the temperature holding time is 0.5 - 4 hours preferably. Although aging treatment is performed after the above-mentioned heat treatment after cooling, it can acquire effectiveness equivalent to aging treatment by cooling slowly in the temperature fall process of the above-mentioned heat treatment. [0053] In addition, in order to prevent oxidation of the alloy for infiltrating, and a Plastic solid, as for infiltrating and subsequent heat treatment, it is desirable to carry out in a vacuum or inert gas ambient atmospheres, such as Ar gas.

[0054] <Magnet> The magnet manufactured by doing in this way has the main phase which consists of R2 T14B substantially, and the subphase which surrounds this main phase. A subphase is an R rich phase with high R ratio from R2 T14B. Although the rate of the subphase in a magnet changes with Plastic solid consistencies, it is usually 20 to 40 volume %. When the alloy for infiltrating containing Co and/or Cu is used, in a subphase, an R3 Co phase and/or a RCu phase are contained, and a subphase consists of only these phases substantially depending on the presentation of the alloy for infiltrating.

[0055] Even when Co of an R3 Co phase reaches in part at least, a part of Cu [at least] of a RCu phase is permuted by Fe, when Fe is contained in the alloy for infiltrating, and Fe is not contained in the alloy for infiltrating, the permutation by such Fe is usually seen by diffusion from the main phase.

[0056] Moreover, when the alloy for infiltrating is a thing containing Co and Cu, an R3 Co phase and a RCu phase are contained, a part of Co [at least] of an R3 Co phase is permuted by Cu, and a part of Cu [at least] of a RCu phase is permuted by Co.

[0057] An R3 Co phase and a RCu phase show the effectiveness of raising magnetic corrosion resistance, and its effectiveness of a RCu phase is more high. And it is R3 as an R3 Co phase. When R (Cu1-y-z Coy Fez) phase (0.01<=y<=0.3, 0.01<=z<=0.3) is included as a RCu phase, including a phase (Co1-w-x Few Cux) (0.01<=w<=0.3, 0.01<=x<=0.3), the corrosion-resistant improvement effectiveness becomes remarkably high. As for the content of these phases in a magnet, it is desirable that it is one to 30 volume %, respectively. And as for the sum total content of these phases in a magnet, it is desirable that it is 20 to 40 volume %. That is, as for a subphase, it is desirable to consist of only these phases substantially. In addition, although other phases, such as an R acid ghost phase, are contained in a subphase such even case, the ratio in the magnet of a phase besides these is below 5 volume % extent. The path of an R3Co phase or a RCu phase which appears in a magnet cross section is usually 50 micrometers. It is the following.

[0058] Although a magnetic presentation is determined by the presentation of the alloy for Plastic solids, the presentation of the alloy for infiltrating, the ratio of these alloys, etc., it shall contain [R] B for R 0.6 to 1.3% of the weight 35 to 45% of the weight more preferably 30 to 60% of the weight, including B 0.3 to 6% of the weight. In addition, the remainder is M originating in T and the alloy for infiltrating originating in the alloy for Plastic solids etc.

[0059] In order to raise corrosion resistance, corrosion-protective covering may be prepared in <other> magnets with electropainting, nonelectrolytic plating, electrolysis plating, etc. of resin if needed.

[0060] This invention is suitable for especially the manufacture of the anisotropy ring-like magnet of thin meat, or an anisotropy tabular magnet as which dimensional accuracy is required.
[0061]

[Example] Hereafter, the concrete example of this invention is shown and this invention is further explained to a detail.

[0062] <Example 1> First, in Ar gas ambient atmosphere, the RF dissolution was carried out and the ingot of the alloy for Plastic solids was cast. The presentation of an ingot was used as the (30Nd-3Dy)-1.2B-remainder Fe with weight percent. the diameter of average crystal grain of this alloy ingot -- 120 micrometers it was . After carrying out mechanical grinding of this ingot in nitrogengas-atmosphere mind, nitrogen gas air-current grinding of it is carried out with a jet mill, and it is the

mean particle diameter of 4.5 micrometers. It considered as the end for Plastic solids of an alloy powder.

[0063] It is 2 6t/cm to the direction which intersects perpendicularly this end for Plastic solids of an alloy powder in the direction of a field in the field of 15 kOe. The pressure was impressed and pressed and the Plastic solid of a 10mmx10mmx10mm cube configuration was acquired. the consistency of this Plastic solid -- 5.20 g/cm3 it was . The heat shrink initiation temperature of this Plastic solid was in the range of 650-700 degrees C.

[0064] Next, the alloy for infiltrating was manufactured by the arc dissolution in Ar gas ambient atmosphere. The presentation of the alloy for infiltrating was set to 85Nd-15Fe with weight percent. The melting point of the alloy for infiltrating was 650 degrees C.

[0065] Subsequently, the alloy for infiltrating broken on several mm square was laid on the Plastic solid in the end for Plastic solids of an alloy powder. In addition, the amount of the alloy for infiltrating used was considered as the increase of 3 % of the weight of the amount of openings in the Plastic solid searched for by count. Temperature up of these was carried out to 950 degrees C in the vacuum with the electric furnace, and they were held for 2 hours. The alloy for infiltrating was fused near [the] the melting point, and sank into the Plastic solid. By carrying out temperature up again and holding at 620 degrees C after cooling, for 1 hour, aging treatment was performed and magnet sample No.1 was obtained.

[0066] Contraction of magnet sample No.1 to a Plastic solid was 1.4% towards intersecting perpendicularly in the direction of a field 2.5% in the direction of a field at the time of shaping. The magnetic consistencies were 7.40 g/cm3 (98% or more of theoretical density), and were equivalent to the sintered magnet. For the residual magnetic flux density (Br), 9.1kG(s) and coercive force (HCJ) were [12.5 kOe and the maximum energy product {(BH) max} of the magnetic properties of sample No.1] 19.7MGOe(s).

[0067] The magnet sample was manufactured like the example 1 except the presentation of the alloy for <example 2> infiltrating being shown in a table 1. All fuse the alloy for infiltrating shown in a table 1 by 950 degrees C, and the melting point of the alloy for infiltrating was 700 degrees C or less except for sample No.2-8, 2-10, 2-12, and 2-13. About these samples, the same measurement as an example 1 was performed. A result is shown in a table 1.

[A table 1]

| | | | <u> </u> | 磁石 | 磁気特性 | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|--|
| サンプル No. | 溶浸用合金組成 (重量%) | 磁界に 平行 | 磁界に 直交 | 密度 (g/cm³) | Br (kG) | HCJ (k0e) | (BH) max. (MGOe) | |
| 2-1 | 90Nd-10Fe | 2.8 | 1.7 | 7.38 | 8. 9 | 13.0 | 18.9 | |
| 2-2 | 60Nd-30Cu-10Fe | 2.0 | 1.3 | 7.42 | 8.8 | 8.3 | 18.3 | |
| 2-3 | (65Nd-20Pr)-15Fe | 2.3 | 1.7 | 7.40 | 9.0 | 14.1 | 19.4 | |
| 2-4 | (55Nd-15Pr-10Dy)-20Fe | 2.5 | 1.8 | 7.44 | 8.8 | 15.3 | 18.5 | |
| 2-5 | 80Nd-15Fe-5Co | 1.8 | 0.9 | 7.45 | 9.1 | 11.4 | 19.7 | |
| 2-6 | (30Nd-10Pr-30Ce-15La) -15Fe | 2.7 | 1.9 | 7.39 | 8.4 | 16. l | 17.0 | |
| 2-7 | 85Nd-14Fe-1A1 | 2.5 | 1.4 | 7.35 | 8.6 | 13.6 | 17.6 | |
| 2-8 | (60Nd-25Pr) -13Fe-2B | 3.6 | 2.0 | 7.40 | 9.0 | 11.4 | 19.3 | |
| 2-9 | 80Nd-20Co | 1.2 | 0.1 | 7.50 | 9.2 | 12.9 | 20.2 | |
| 2-10 | 80Nd-15Fe-5Sn | 6.5 | 3.5 | 7.43 | 1.6 | 11.8 | 19.7 | |
| 2-11 | (56Nd-15Dy) ~12Co-17Cu | 2.2 | 0.9 | 7.56 | 8.5 | 12.0 | 17.3 | |
| 2-12 | 79Nd-20Fe-1C | 6.8 | 2.7 | 7.43 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 22.6 | |
| 2-13 | 78Nd-20Fe-2Si | 7.2 | 3.8 | 7.42 | 10.0 | 11.5 | 23.6 | |
| 2-14 | 76Nd-12Ni-12Cu | 0.6 | 0.2 | 7.50 | 8.4 | 10.0 | 16.7 | |
| 2-15 | 85Nd-10Co-5Ni | 1.3 | 0.3 | 7.46 | 8.9 | 11.1 | 18.8 | |
| 2-16 | 81Nd-12Co-7A1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 7. 25 | 8.3 | 11.9 | 16.5 | |
| 2-17 | 85Nd-15Ag | 1.5 | 1.2 | 7.50 | 9.1 | 10.3 | 19.6 | |
| 2-18 | 71Nd-12Co-17Cu | 1.2 | 0.4 | 7.50 | 9.0 | 12.3 | 19.3 | |
| 2-19 | 80Nd-15Co-5Ga | 0.8 | 0.3 | 7.49 | 9.1 | 12.4 | 19.7 | |

[0069] The magnet sample was manufactured like the example 1 except the presentation of the alloy for <example 3> Plastic solids being shown in a table 2. All the heat shrink initiation temperature of the Plastic solid in the end of an alloy powder shown in a table 2 was 650 degrees C or more. About these samples, the same measurement as an example 1 was performed. A result is shown in a table 2.

[0070] [A table 2]

| | | 収縮 | 整 (%) | 磁石 | | 磁気特性 | ŧ |
|------|----------------------------|-------|-------|---------|------|-------|-----------|
| サンブル | 成形体用合金組成 | 磁界に | 磁界に | 密度 | Br | HCJ | (BH) max. |
| No. | (<u>重</u> 量%) | 平行 | 直交 | (g/cm³) | (kG) | (k0e) | (MGOe) |
| 3-1 | 27Nd-72Fe-1B | 2.5 | 1.4 | 7.42 | 9.7 | 6.1 | 22.0 |
| 3-2 | (21Nd-6Pr)-62Fe-10Co-1B | 2.6 | 1.4 | 7.55 | 9.5 | 7.8 | 21.3 |
| 3-3 | (31Nd-1.5Tb)-66.3Fe-1.2B | 2.3 | 1.2 | 7.43 | 9.2 | 10.2 | 20.1 |
| 3-4 | (29.5Nd-2Dy)-67Fe-0.5A1-11 | 3 2.4 | 1.4 | 7.45 | 9.3 | 10.6 | 20.6 |
| 3-5 | 30Nd-68.5Fe-1Be-0.5C | 2.6 | 1.6 | 7.41 | 9. 2 | 9.8 | 20.0 |
| 3-6 | 33Pr-61Fe-5Ni-1B | 2.5 | 1.4 | 7.40 | 8.9 | 11.4 | 18.9 |
| 3-7 | (26Nd-7Pr-3Dy)-62.5Fe-1.5F | 3 2.7 | 1.5 | 7.41 | 8.5 | 13.2 | 17.4 |
| 3-8 | 40Nd-50Fe-8Co-2B | 2.8 | 1.8 | 7.48 | 7.9 | 11.7 | 14.9 |
| 3-9 | (42Nd-2.5Dy)-54.2Fe-1.3B | 2.6 | 1.5 | 7.44 | 7. 5 | 13.9 | 13.5 |

[0071] The magnet sample was manufactured like the example 1 except having considered as the value which shows <example 4> compacting pressure in a table 3. About each sample, the same

measurement as an example 1 was performed. A result is shown in a table 3. [0072]

[A table 3]

| | 成形体 | | 収縮 | 赵 (%) | 磁石 | | 磁気特性 | <u> </u> |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|
| サンブル No. | 成形圧力 (t/cm²) | 密度 (g/cm ^a) | 磁界に 平行 | 磁界に 直交 | 密度 (g/cm²) | Br (kG) | HCJ (kOe) | (BH) max. (MGOe) |
| 4-1 | 0.5 | 4.15 | 2.9 | 1.8 | 7. 38 | 7.2 | 11.6 | 12.4 |
| 4-2 | 1.0 | 4.40 | 2.8 | 1.6 | 7.40 | 7.7 | 11.4 | 14.1 |
| 4-3 | 2.0 | 4.70 | 2.4 | 1.4 | 7. 40 | 8.2 | 12.3 | 16.0 |
| 4-4 | 4.0 | 4.95 | 2.5 | 1.4 | 7.41 | 8.6 | 11.9 | 17.8 |
| 4-5 | 6.0 | 5.20 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 7.40 | 9.1 | 12.5 | 19.7 |
| 4-6 | 8.0 | 5.40 | 2.8 | 1.6 | 7.41 | 9.4 | 11.8 | 21.1 |
| 4-7 | 10.0 | 5.55 | 2.4 | 1.5 | 7.41 | 9.7 | 12-4 | 22.5 |

[0073] In addition, in each above-mentioned example, all the relative density of each sample of the presentation of a sample was 98% or more 30 to 60% of the weight about R altogether, including B 0.3 to 6% of the weight.

[0074] The configuration of a subphase was investigated about the magnet sample shown in the <configuration of subphase> table 4. Sample No.5-1 of a table 4, 5-2, and 5-3 were produced like sample No.1 except having used the alloy for infiltrating shown in a table 4.

[0075] Each sample of a table 4 had the main phase originating in the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids, and the subphase originating in the alloy for infiltrating. The rate of a volume ratio of the R3 Co phase contained in a subphase, a RCu phase, R phase, and phases other than these is shown in a table 4. Each of these rates of a volume ratio is rates of a volume ratio to the whole sample.

Moreover, the rate of a volume ratio of the whole subphase occupied in a sample was also shown in a table 4. These rates of a volume ratio were computed from the area of each phase measured using the scanning electron microscope photograph (presentation image) of a sample cross section. The cross-section photograph of sample No.2-18 is shown in <u>drawing 1</u>. In <u>drawing 1</u>, a black field is the main phase, a gray field is a RCu phase, and white fields are an R3 Co phase and an R acid ghost phase. For the R3 Co phase and RCu phase which appeared in the cross section of sample No.2-11, 2-18, and 5-1, a path is 20 micrometers. It was the following. SEM-EDX and EPMA were used for identification of each phase.

[0076] About each sample shown in a table 4, in order to investigate corrosion resistance, the pressure cooker trial (120 degree C and 100%RH) was performed, and the weight variation per unit surface area of a sample was calculated after 100-hour progress. A result is shown in a table 4. In a table 4, the sign of weight variation is subtracted, because omission of the main phase arose by the intergranular corrosion near a sample front face.

[A table 4]

| サンプル | 溶浸用合金組成 | | 重量変化量 | | | | |
|------|-----------------------|----|-------|-----|----|-----|----------|
| No. | (重量%) | 全体 | R₃Co | RCu | R | その他 | (mg/cm²) |
| 2-11 | (56Nd-15Dy)-12Co-17Cu | 35 | 13 | 20 | 0 | 2 | -0.01 |
| 2-18 | 71Nd-12Co-17Cu | 36 | 14 | 19 | 0 | 3 | -0.01 |
| 5-1 | 76Nd-3Fe-9Co-12Cu | 35 | 18 | 14 | 0 | 3 | -0. 02 |
| 1-1 | 85Nd-15Fe | 34 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 13 | -53.67 |
| 5-2 | 86Nd-12Co-2Cu | 35 | 25 | 0 | 8 | 2 | -7.43 |
| 5-3 | 88.4Nd-11.5Co-0.1B | 35 | 19. | 0 | 14 | 2 | -27.30 |

[0078] Although the phase of "others" in the subphase shown in a table 4 was mainly Nd oxide

phase, it was what makes a NdFe phase a subject in sample No.1-1.

[0079] As shown in a table 4, in sample No.2-11 which have both an R3 Co phase and a RCu phase, 2-18, and 5-1, it turns out that weight variation is remarkably small and corrosion resistance is very good. On the other hand, in sample No.5-2 which contain only an R3 Co phase excluding a RCu phase, and 5-3, corrosion resistance is low, and corrosion resistance is remarkably low at sample No.1-1 containing neither an R3 Co phase nor a RCu phase.

[0080] In addition, in sample No.2-11, 2-18, and 5-1, a part of Co of an R3 Co phase is permuted by Cu and Fe, and a part of Cu of a RCu phase was permuted by Co and Fe. Specifically, the presentation of an R3 Co phase is R3 (Co1-w-x Few Cux).

It is alike, it sets, and is $w^{**}0.25$ and $x^{**}0.23$, and the presentation of a RCu phase is R (Cu1-y-z Coy Fez).

It was alike, it set and was y**0.10 and z**0.12.

[0081] In addition, each sample shown in tables 1-3 also has the main phase originating in the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids, and the subphase originating in the alloy for infiltrating, and each ratio of the subphase in a sample was in the range of 20 - 40 volume %.

[0082] It is the 29Nd(s)-1B-remainder Fe (% of the weight) as an alloy for <comparison with partial-loss-by-fire join magnet> Plastic solids.

It is the 85Nd(s)-remainder Fe (% of the weight) as ***** and an alloy for infiltrating. It performed ***** and infiltrating and magnet sample No.6-1 was produced. However, heat treatment in the case of infiltrating was performed at 700 degrees C for 10 hours according to the example of JP,3-80508,A mentioned above.

[0083] Moreover, after performing heat treatment to the Plastic solid used for sample No.6-1 at 400 degrees C for 0.5 hours according to an approach given in JP,3-80508,A, it performed infiltrating like sample No.6-1, and was referred to as sample No.6-2.

[0084] Magnetic properties were measured about these samples. Consequently, to sample No.6-1 having been Br =8.6kG, HCJ=6.1 kOe, and (BH) max =13MGOe, by sample No.6-2, it is Br =8.2kG, HCJ=5.1 kOe, and (BH) max =11MGOe, and degradation of the magnetic properties by heat treatment of a Plastic solid was accepted.

[0085] The effectiveness of this invention is clear from the result of the above example.

[Translation done.]

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TECHNICAL FIELD

[Industrial Application] This invention relates to the good rare earth magnet and its manufacture approach of dimensional accuracy.

[Translation done.]

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] R (R is at least one sort of the rare earth elements containing Y), T (T) The alloy for Plastic solids containing the phase which contains B and consists of R2 T14B substantially and it is Fe or is at least one sort of Co, nickel, and Cu, and Fe, R -- containing -- R2 T14B -- R -- the manufacture approach of the magnet characterized by carrying out infiltrating of the fused alloy for infiltrating to the Plastic solid of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids using the rich alloy for infiltrating, and obtaining a magnet.

[Claim 2] The manufacture approach of the magnet of claim 1 that the melting point of the alloy for

infiltrating is 1000 degrees C or less.

[Claim 3] The manufacture approach of the magnet of claims 1 or 2 with the melting point of the alloy for infiltrating lower than the heat shrink initiation temperature of said Plastic solid.

[Claim 4] The manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-3 which carry out temperature up where said Plastic solid and the alloy for infiltrating are contacted, and fuse the alloy for infiltrating. [Claim 5] The consistencies of said Plastic solid are 4.0 g/cm3. The manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-4 which they are above.

[Claim 6] The manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-5 which manufacture the magnet

whose relative density is 95% or more.

[Claim 7] The manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-6 that the alloy for Plastic solids is [the remainder] T substantially about R, including 26 - 38 % of the weight, and B 0.9 to 3% of the weight.

[Claim 8] The manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-7 that Nd+Pr occupies 50% of the

weight or more of R of the alloy for Plastic solids.

[Claim 9] The manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-8 that Fe+Co occupies 50% of the weight or more of T.

[Claim 10] the mean particle diameter of the powder of the alloy for Plastic solids -- 0.1-50 micrometers it is -- the manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-9.

[Claim 11] The manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-10 that the alloy for infiltrating contains R 40 to 99% of the weight.

[Claim 12] The manufacture approach of the magnet of claim 11 that the remainder of the alloy for infiltrating is M (M is at least one sort of Fe, Co, nickel, Cu, aluminum, Sn, Ga, and Ag) substantially.

[Claim 13] The manufacture approach of the magnet of claim 12 that it changes to a part of M, and these sum total contents are 3 or less % of the weight of the alloys for infiltrating including at least one sort of B, Si, and C.

[Claim 14] The manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-13 that said Plastic solid is fabricated in a field.

[Claim 15] The manufacture approach of one magnet of claims 1-14 which heat-treat at temperature higher than the melting point of the alloy for infiltrating to the Plastic solid after infiltrating.

[Claim 16] The manufacture approach of the magnet of claim 15 that the retention temperature in the case of said heat treatment is 800 degrees C or more.

[Claim 17] It is R2 T14 B phase (R is at least one sort of the rare earth elements containing Y T) substantially. The main phase of the shape of a grain which is Fe or consists of being at least one sort of Co, nickel, and Cu, and Fe, R2 T14B -- R -- the magnet characterized by the rate of the subphase in a magnet being 20 to 40 volume % including an R3 Co phase and/or a RCu phase including the subphase which is rich and surrounds said main phase into a subphase.

[Claim 18] The magnet of claim 17 with which Co of an R3 Co phase reaches in part at least, and a

part of Cu [at least] of a RCu phase is permuted by Fe.

[Claim 19] The magnet of claims 17 or 18 with which a part of Co [at least] of an R3 Co phase is permuted by Cu, and a part of Cu [at least] of a RCu phase is permuted by Co.

[Claim 20] A subphase is R3. A phase (Co1-w-x Few Cux) (0.01<=w<=0.3, 0.01<=x<=0.3) and R (Cu1-y-z Coy Fez) phase (0.01<=y<=0.3, 0.01<=z<=0.3) are included. The magnet of claim 17 whose sum total content of these phases in a magnet the content of these phases in a magnet is one to 30 volume %, respectively, and is 20 to 40 volume %.

[Claim 21] The magnet of claims 17-20 which contain B for R 0.3 to 6% of the weight 30 to 60% of

the weight.

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(54) 【発明の名称】 磁石およびその製造方法

(57)【要約】

【目的】 保磁力および残留磁東密度が高く、しかも寸 法精度の良好なR-T-B系異方性磁石を提供する。ま た、耐食性が著しく優れたR-T-B系異方性磁石を提 供する。

【構成】 R(希土類元素)、T(Feであるか、Co、NiおよびCuの少なくとも1種ならびにFe)およびBを含有し、実質的にR。TuBからなる相を含む成形体用合金と、Rリッチな溶浸用合金とを用い、溶融した溶浸用合金を、成形体用合金の粉末の成形体に溶浸させて磁石を得る。また、実質的にR2TuB相からなる粒状の主相と、R2TuBよりもRリッチであり、前記主相を包囲する副相とを含み、副相中にR。Co相および/またはRCu相を含み、磁石中の副相の割合が20~40体積%である磁石とすることにより、耐食性を著しく向上させる。

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【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 R(Rは、Yを含む希土類元素の少なくとも1種である)、T(Tは、Feであるか、Co、NiおよびCuの少なくとも1種ならびにFeである)およびBを含有し、実質的にR2 TuBからなる相を含む成形体用合金と、Rを含み、R2 TuBよりもRリッチな溶浸用合金とを用い、溶融した溶浸用合金を、成形体用合金の粉末の成形体に溶浸させて磁石を得ることを特徴とする磁石の製造方法。

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【請求項2】 溶浸用合金の融点が1000℃以下であ 10 る請求項1の磁石の製造方法。

【請求項3】 溶浸用合金の融点が、前記成形体の熱収縮開始温度よりも低い請求項1または2の磁石の製造方法。

【請求項4】 前記成形体と溶浸用合金とを接触させた 状態で昇温して溶浸用合金を溶融する請求項1~3のい ずれかの磁石の製造方法。

【請求項5】 前記成形体の密度が4.0g/cm²以上である請求項1~4のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。

【請求項6】 相対密度が95%以上である磁石を製造する請求項1~5のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。

【請求項7】 成形体用合金が、

Rを26~38重量%、

Bを $0.9 \sim 3$ 重量%含み、残部が実質的にTである請求項 $1 \sim 6$ のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。

【請求項8】 Nd+Prが成形体用合金のRの50重量%以上を占める請求項 $1\sim7$ のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。

【請求項9】 Fe+CoがTの50重量%以上を占める請求項1~8のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。

【請求項10】 成形体用合金の粉末の平均粒子径が 0.1~50μm である請求項1~9のいずれかの磁石 の製造方法。

【請求項11】 溶浸用合金がRを40~99重量%含む請求項1~10のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。

【請求項12】 溶浸用合金の残部が実質的にM(Mは、Fe、Co、Ni、Cu、Al、Sn、GaおよびAgの少なくとも1種である)である請求項11の磁石の製造方法。

【請求項13】 Mの一部に替えて、B、SiおよびCの少なくとも1種を含み、これらの合計含有量が溶浸用合金の3重量%以下である請求項12の磁石の製造方法。

【請求項14】 前記成形体が磁界中で成形されたものである請求項1~13のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。

【請求項15】 溶浸後の成形体に、溶浸用合金の融点よりも高い温度で熱処理を施す請求項1~14のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。

【請求項16】 前記熱処理の際の保持温度が800℃ 以上である請求項15の磁石の製造方法。 【請求項17】 実質的に R_2 T_{IL} B相(Rは、Yを含む希土類元素の少なくとも1種であり、Tは、Fe であるか、Co、Ni およびCu の少なくとも1種ならびに Fe である)からなる粒状の主相と、 R_2 T_{IL} Bよりも Rリッチであり、前記主相を包囲する副相とを含み、副相中に R_3 Co相および/またはRC u相を含み、磁石中の副相の割合が 20~40体積%であることを特徴とする磁石

【請求項18】 R₃ C o 相のC o の少なくとも一部およびR C u 相のC u の少なくとも一部がF e で置換されている請求項17の磁石。

【請求項19】 R。Co相のCoの少なくとも一部がCuで置換されており、RCu相のCuの少なくとも一部がCoで置換されている請求項17または18の磁石。

【請求項20】 副相が、R₃ (Coi+x Fe、Cu ,)相(0.01 \le w \le 0.3、0.01 \le x \le 0.3) およびR (Cui+x Co, Fe.)相(0.01 \le y \le 0.3、0.01 \le z \le 0.3)を含み、磁石中におけるこれらの相の含有率がそれぞれ1~30体積%であり、磁石中におけるこれらの相の合計含有率が20~40体積%である請求項17の磁石。

【請求項21】Rを30~60重量%、

Bを0.3~6重量%含む請求項17~20の磁石。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【産業上の利用分野】本発明は、寸法精度の良好な希土 類磁石およびその製造方法に関する。

[0002]

30

【従来の技術】高性能を有する希土類磁石としては、粉末冶金法によるSm-Co系磁石でエネルギー積32MGOeのものが量産されている。また、近年Nd2FemB磁石等のR-T-B系磁石(TはFe、またはFexよびCo)が開発され、特開昭59-46008号公報には焼結磁石が開示されている。R-T-B系磁石は、Sm-Co系磁石に比べ原料が安価である。R-T-B系焼結磁石の製造には、従来のSm-Co系の粉末冶金プロセス(溶解→母合金鋳造→インゴット粗粉砕→微粉砕→成形→焼結→磁石)を適用することができる。

40 【0003】R-T-B系磁石では、焼結磁石の他に、磁石粉末を樹脂バインダや金属バインダで結合したボンディッド磁石も実用化されている。ボンディッド磁石は、成形の際の寸法がほぼ維持されるため、寸法精度が高く、製造後に形状加工を必要としない。しかし、工業化されているR-T-B系のボンディッド磁石は、特公平1-54457号公報に示されるように、単ロール法等を用いて急冷凝固した多結晶粒子を用いるので、等方性磁石(最大エネルギー積5~10MG0e程度)となる。異方性ボンディッド磁石用の磁石粉末としては、特公平504-20242号公報に示されるように、急冷凝固した

粉末をホットプレスにより一軸性圧縮して高密度化した 後、高温で一軸性塑性加工(ダイアップセット)を施し て異方性化し、得られた異方性圧粉体を粉砕したものが 提案されている。しかし、この異方性化プロセスは手間 がかかり、生産コストが大幅に上昇してしまう。また、 ホットプレスおよびダイアップセットの際に高温減磁が 生じてしまう。なお、ボンディッド磁石に異方性焼結磁 石の粉砕粉を用いることも考えられるが、焼結体を粉砕 すると保磁力や角形比が極端に劣化するため、磁石とし ての特性が得られない。この他、鋳造・熱間圧延プロセ スで製造した磁石体の粉砕粉も異方性ボンディッド磁石 の原料として提案されているが、焼結体を粉砕した場合 と同様に、粉砕による保磁力の劣化が大きいため、実用 材料とはなっていない。

【0004】このように、ボンディッド磁石では高保磁力を維持したままで異方性化することが極めて困難である。しかも、磁石全体に占める磁石粉末の割合に制限があるため、高い残留磁束密度を得ることが困難である。

【0005】これに対し、R-T-B系焼結磁石では、実質的に単結晶粒子からなる粉末を磁界中で成形するた 20 め、容易に異方性磁石が得られ、しかもバインダを用いないため、高特性が得られる。しかし、焼結法では、成形体が焼結反応時に著しく収縮し、その収縮が不均一であるため、成形体の寸法精度の維持が難しい。この収縮は、成形体中の粒子の配向度や密度のばらつきなどにより異なる。異方性焼結磁石では、磁化容易軸方向とそれに直交する方向とで収縮率が異なる。例えば、成形体の密度が4.3g/cm³のとき、焼結後の密度は7.55g/cm³に達し、収縮率は磁化容易軸方向で22%程度、それに垂直な方向で15%程度となり、全体として30~3040体積%程度も収縮してしまう。

【0006】一般的に、磁石粉末を成形する際の圧力を高くすれば成形体の密度が高くなり、それに伴なって焼結時の収縮率は低くなるが、一般的に要求される寸法精度を満足するほど収縮率および変形量は減少しない。この傾向は特にラジアル異方性リング状磁石や極異方性リング状磁石で顕著であり、従来のこれらの異方性リング状磁石では、成形圧力に関係なく、内周面、外周面および上下面の研削が必要となるので、生産性の低下および研削による磁石材料の損失などが生じ、コストアップを40招いている。

[0007]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】本発明の目的は、保磁力および残留磁束密度が高く、しかも寸法精度の良好なR-T-B系異方性磁石を提供することであり、他の目的は、耐食性が極めて良好なR-T-B系異方性磁石を提供することである。

[0008]

【課題を解決するための手段】このような目的は、下記 $(1) \sim (21)$ の本発明により達成される。

- (1) R(Rは、Yを含む希土類元素の少なくとも1種である)、T(Tは、Feであるか、Co、NiおよびCuの少なくとも1種ならびにFeである)およびBを含有し、実質的にR2 Tu Bからなる相を含む成形体用合金と、Rを含み、R2 Tu BよりもRリッチな溶浸用合金とを用い、溶融した溶浸用合金を、成形体用合金の粉末の成形体に溶浸させて磁石を得ることを特徴とする磁石の製造方法。
- (2) 溶浸用合金の融点が1000℃以下である上記
- (1)の磁石の製造方法。
 - (3) 溶浸用合金の融点が、前記成形体の熱収縮開始温度よりも低い上記(1) または(2) の磁石の製造方法
 - (4) 前記成形体と溶浸用合金とを接触させた状態で昇温して溶浸用合金を溶融する上記(1)~(3)のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。
 - (5) 前記成形体の密度が4.0g/cm3 以上である上記
 - (1)~(4)のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。
 - (6) 相対密度が95%以上である磁石を製造する上記
 - (1)~(5)のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。
 - (7) 成形体用合金が、Rを26~38重量%、Bを0.9~3重量%含み、残部が実質的にTである上記
 - (1)~(6)のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。
 - (8) Nd+Prが成形体用合金のRの50重量%以上 を占める上記(1)~(7)のいずれかの磁石の製造方 生
 - (9) Fe+CoがTの50重量%以上を占める上記
 - (1)~(8)のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。
 - (10) 成形体用合金の粉末の平均粒子径が $0.1\sim5$ 0 μ m である上記(1) \sim (9)のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。
 - (11) 溶浸用合金がRを40~99重量%含む上記
 - (1)~(10)のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。
 - (12) 溶浸用合金の残部が実質的にM(Mは、Fe、Co、Ni、Cu、Al、Sn、GaおよびAgの少なくとも1種である) である上記(11) の磁石の製造方法。
 - (13) Mの一部に替えて、B、SiおよびCの少なくとも1種を含み、これらの合計含有量が溶浸用合金の3 重量%以下である上記(12)の磁石の製造方法。
 - (14) 前記成形体が磁界中で成形されたものである上記 $(1) \sim (13)$ のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。
 - (15)溶浸後の成形体に、溶浸用合金の融点よりも高い温度で熱処理を施す上記(1)~(14)のいずれかの磁石の製造方法。
 - (16) 前記熱処理の際の保持温度が800℃以上である上記(15)の磁石の製造方法。
 - (17) 実質的に R_2 T_{ii} B相(Rは、Yを含む希土類元素の少なくとも1種であり、Tは、Fe であるか、Co、Ni およびCu の少なくとも1種ならびにFe であ

る)からなる粒状の主相と、 R_2 T_M BよりもRリッチであり、前記主相を包囲する副相とを含み、副相中に R_3 C o 相および/またはR C u 相を含み、磁石中の副相の割合が 2 0 \sim 4 0 体積%であることを特徴とする磁石。

(18) R。Co相のCoの少なくとも一部およびRCu相のCuの少なくとも一部がFeで置換されている上記(17)の磁石。

(19) R₃ C o 相のC o の少なくとも一部がC u で置換されており、R C u 相のC u の少なくとも一部がC o で置換されている上記(17) または(18) の磁石。

(20) 副相が、R₃ (Co_{1+x} Fe, Cu,)相 (0.01 \leq w \leq 0.3、0.01 \leq x \leq 0.3) およびR (Cu_{1+x} Co, Fe,)相 (0.01 \leq y \leq 0.3、0.01 \leq z \leq 0.3) を含み、磁石中におけるこれらの相の含有率がそれぞれ1~30体積%であり、磁石中におけるこれらの相の合計含有率が20~40体積%である上記 (17) の磁石。

(21) Rを30~60重量%、Bを0.3~6重量% 含む上記(17)~(20)の磁石。

[0009]

【作用および効果】Nd2 Fen B系焼結磁石の保磁力が結晶粒界のNdリッチ相の存在に依存していることは、様々な論文などにおいて詳しく報告されている。したがって、Nd2 Fen B相から構成される結晶粒をNdリッチ相が均一に被覆するように焼結すること、すなわち、焼結磁石中においてNdリッチ相を均一に分散させることが重要となる。

【0010】本発明では、実質的にR2 Tn Bからなる相を有する粉末の成形体に、Rリッチな溶浸用合金を溶 30浸させる。この場合の溶浸とは、溶融した合金を成形体に染み込ませることである。液相の溶浸用合金は、成形体用合金の粉末に対して極めて濡れ性が良好であるため、短時間で成形体中の粒子間の空隙に充填される。このため、保磁力発生に重要なRリッチ相が磁石中において偏在せず、高保磁力が得られる。しかも、溶浸により製造された磁石の密度はほぼ完全に焼結された磁石の密度と同等となる。換言すれば、磁石外部へ通じる開空孔のほとんどない磁石が得られる。このため、焼結磁石と同様に、Niめっきや樹脂塗装などにより、十分な防錆 40効果が得られる。

【0011】溶浸の前後で成形体の寸法はほとんど変化しないため、溶浸後に寸法調整のための研削加工を行なう必要がない。また、磁界中成形された成形体を用いた場合でも、異方性付与に起因する収縮率差がほとんど生じないので、磁石のクラックや割れを防ぐことができる。

【0012】本発明により製造される磁石は、Rリッチな粒界相(副相)の比率が比較的高いので、従来のRーT-B系高密度焼結磁石よりは磁気特性が低くなるが、

Sm-Co系のボンディッド磁石 {(BH)max =約15MG 0e} よりは高くなる。しかも、R-T-B系磁石は、Sm-Co系磁石に比べ原料が安価である。したがって、本発明により製造される磁石は、従来、寸法精度の高さが要求される用途に用いられているSm-Co系ボンディッド磁石の代替品として好適である。

【0013】本発明の磁石は、R2 Tu B相からなる粒状の主相と、R2 Tu BよりもRリッチであり、前記主相を包囲する副相とを含む。この副相中には、R2 Co 相および/またはRCu相が含まれる。これらの相は磁石の耐食性を向上させる。本発明の磁石は副相の占める割合が高く、しかも、副相の大部分をこれらの相が占める構成とできるため、耐食性が極めて良好となる。このような磁石は、上述した本発明の製造方法において溶浸用合金の組成を適宜選択することにより、容易に製造することができる。

【0014】ところで、特開平3-80508号公報には、RFeB系磁石を粉末冶金法により製造する方法において、磁石粉をプレス成形した後、400~900℃の温度範囲でポーラスな焼結体とし、それを溶融合金Nd、Feix(x=0.65~0.85)に一定時間浸漬する方法が開示されている。この方法は、磁界配向による熱収縮の異方性に起因する焼結後の変形を抑えることを目的とするものである。しかし、同公報記載の方法のように成形体に400~900℃で熱処理を施すと磁気特性が劣化してしまい、本発明による磁石と同等の磁気特性は得られない。しかも、同公報の実施例のように800℃以上で熱処理を施した場合、焼結が進んでしまい、本発明のように収縮率を小さくすることができなくなる。

[0016]

【具体的構成】以下、本発明の具体的構成について詳細 に説明する。

【0017】本発明では、成形体用合金と溶浸用合金と を用い、溶融した溶浸用合金を成形体用合金の粉末の成 形体に溶浸することにより磁石を製造する。

【0018】<成形体用合金>成形体用合金は、R(Rは、Yを含む希土類元素の少なくとも1種である)、T(Tは、Feであるか、Co、NiおよびCuの少なくとも1種ならびにFeである)およびBを含有し、実質的にRzTuBからなる相を含む。成形体用合金の具体的組成は、目的とする磁石特性に応じ、溶浸用合金の組

成などを考慮して適宜決定すればよいが、好ましくは、 Rを26~38重量%、Bを0.9~3重量%含み、残 部が実質的にTであるものとし、より好ましくは、Rを 27~33重量%、Bを1.0~1.5重量%含み、残 部が実質的にTであるものとする。

【0019】Rは、Y、ランタニドおよびアクチニドで あるが、高残留磁束密度を得るためには好ましくはNd および/またはPrを用いる。これらの他に、Tb、D y, La, Ce, Gd, Er, Ho, Eu, Pm, T m、Yb、Y等の1種以上を用いてもよい。Nd+Pr は、成形体用合金のRの50重量%以上、特に80重量 %以上を占めることが好ましい。希土類元素の原料とし ては、ミッシュメタル等の混合物を用いることもでき る。成形体用合金中のR含有量が少なすぎると鉄に富む 相が析出して高保磁力が得られなくなり、R含有量が多 すぎると高残留磁束密度が得られなくなる。

【0020】R2 Tin B系焼結磁石では、Rリッチ相が 液相となって流動することにより焼結反応が進行するの で、原料粉末を一般にR2 Tu BよりもRリッチとす る。本発明では、成形体用合金粉末の成形体にRリッチ な溶浸用合金を溶浸させることにより、成形体中の粒子 周囲に保磁力発生のためのRリッチ相を形成するので、 成形体用合金の組成をR2 Tu BよりもRリッチとする 必要はない。逆に、成形体用合金のR比率が高すぎる と、成形体の熱収縮開始温度が低くなってしまい、溶浸 の際にやや収縮が大きくなってしまう。

【0021】成形体用合金中のB含有量が少なすぎると 高保磁力が得られなくなり、B含有量が多すぎると高残 留磁束密度が得られなくなる。

【0022】成形体用合金では、Fe+CoがTの50 重量%以上、特に90重量%以上を占めることが好まし い。T中のFe+Coの比率が小さすぎると、磁石化し たときに飽和磁化が小さくなり、高残留磁束密度が得ら れなくなる。

【0023】また、成形体用合金では、Fe/(Fe+ Co)が70重量%以上であることが好ましい。Feが 少ないと磁石化したときに高残留磁束密度が得られなく なる。

【0024】上記各元素の他、保磁力改善や耐食性改善 などのために、Al、C、Si、Cr、Mn、Mg、N b、Sn、W、V、Zr、Ti、Moなどの元素を添加 してもよいが、添加量が6重量%を超えると残留磁束密 度の低下が問題となる。

【0025】磁石中には、これらの元素の他、酸素等の 不可避的不純物や微量添加物などが含まれていてもよ

【0026】本発明では、成形体用合金粉末を磁界中で 配向しながら成形するので、粉末化したときに単結晶粒 子となるような結晶粒径であることが好ましいが、多結 晶粒子であっても粒子内で結晶粒が配向していればよい 50 ので、平均結晶粒径は、例えば3~600 um 程度の広 い範囲から選択することができる。

【0027】成形体用合金の粉末の平均粒子径は、好ま しくは $0.1\sim50\mu m$ 、より好ましくは $1\sim10\mu m$ である。平均粒子径が小さすぎると成形体の密度が上が りにくくなって高残留磁束密度が得られにくく、また、 粉末中の酸素量が多くなるため、溶浸用合金の使用量と のバランスによっては高保磁力が得られにくくなる。一 方、平均粒子径が大きすぎると、多結晶粒子の比率が増 えて、高残留磁束密度が得られにくくなる。

【0028】成形体用合金の粉末の製造方法は特に限定 されず、鋳造合金を水素吸蔵粉砕などにより粉末化する 方法や、還元拡散法等のいずれを用いてもよく、焼結磁 石を粉砕して粉末化したもの、あるいは焼結磁石の研削 屑を用いてもよい。磁界配向により異方性化された焼結 磁石を粉砕あるいは研削すれば、配向された小径の結晶 粒からなる多結晶粒子を得ることができるので、高残留 磁束密度かつ高保磁力の磁石が得られる。また、研削屑 は酸素含有量が多いため、成形体としたときの熱収縮開 始温度が高くなる。このため、融点の高い溶浸用合金を 用いた場合でも収縮率を小さくできることになり、材料 選択の自由度が大きくなる。

【0029】<溶浸用合金>溶浸用合金は、Rを含み、 R₂ T₁₄ BよりもRリッチな合金である。

【0030】溶浸する際には、成形体の温度も溶浸用合 金と同程度となっていることが好ましいため、成形体も 昇温される。したがって、溶浸用合金の融点は、その融 点まで昇温したときに、成形体の収縮率が所望の範囲に 収まるものであればよい。具体的には実験的に決定すれ ばよいが、上記した成形体用合金を用いる場合には、好 ましくは1000℃以下、より好ましくは700℃以下

【0031】そして、成形体の収縮率を著しく小さくし たい場合には、成形体の熱収縮開始温度よりも融点が低 い溶浸用合金を用いる。なお、成形体用合金の粉末の成 形体の熱収縮開始温度とは、液相出現により物理的に成 形体が収縮を開始する温度であり、熱機械分析機(Ther momechanical Analyzer) などにより測定する。上記し た成形体用合金の粉末の成形体では、熱収縮開始温度 は、組成や昇温速度などによって異なるが、通常、65 0~1050℃程度であり、例えば5~10℃/min で 等速昇温した場合では、R量を29重量%以下とすれ ば、熱収縮開始温度を800℃以上にすることができ

【0032】溶浸用合金の融点は、好ましくは300℃ 以上、より好ましくは400℃以上とする。融点が低す ぎると、成形時に潤滑剤やバインダとして用いるワック ス等の有機物の分解温度との関係から、磁石中の残留炭 素量が増加し、保磁力が低くなってしまう。また、成形 体用合金粉末のもつ吸着水が抜けきらないうちに溶浸が

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始まることになり、この点からも保磁力低下を招く。 【0033】なお、 R_2 T_{14} B (R=Nd、T=FeO とき、26. 7重量%Nd-72. 3重量%Fe-1. 0重量%B) にほぼ等しい組成の成形体用合金を用いた場合、熱収縮開始温度が実質的に認められなかったり、測定が困難な場合がある。

【0034】溶浸用合金の組成は、必要とされる融点が得られるように決定すればよく、特に限定されないが、Rに加え、M(Mは、Fe、Co、Ni、Cu、Al、Sn、GaおよびAgの少なくとも1種である)を含むことが好ましい。Rとしては、Nd、Pr、DyおよびCeの少なくとも1種、特にNd、PrおよびDyの少なくとも1種が好ましい。Mとしては、Fe、Co、CuおよびAlの少なくとも1種、特にFe、CoおよびCuの少なくとも1種がより好ましい。

【0035】溶浸用合金のR含有量は、好ましくは40~99重量%、より好ましくは60~90重量%である。Rが少なすぎると融点を低くすることが難しくなり、また、磁石の保磁力向上効果も不十分となる。Rが多すぎるか、あるいはR単体であっても、やはり融点が高くなってしまう。なお、残部は実質的に上記Mであることが好ましい。ただし、Mの一部に替えて、B、Si、Cやその他の元素の少なくとも1種を添加してもよい。ただし、これらの元素の合計含有率は、溶浸用合金の3重量%以下とすることが好ましい。また、これらの他、酸素等の不可避的不純物や微量添加元素が含まれていてもよい。

【0036】溶浸用合金はバルク状であってもよく、粉末状であってもよいが、溶浸用合金はR含有量が多く酸化されやすいため、好ましくはバルク状のものまたは粗粉を用いる。

【0037】溶浸用合金の製造方法は特に限定されず、 鋳造法や液体急冷法等のいずれを用いてもよい。

【0038】<成形>成形体用合金の粉末は、通常、焼結磁石製造の際の磁石粉末成形と同様にして圧縮成形するが、本発明では射出成形や、押出し成形などを行なってもよい。異方性磁石を製造するためには、磁界中で成形して成形体用合金の粉末を配向する。

【0039】成形体の密度は特に限定されないが、通常、成形体密度が高いほど残留磁束密度は高くなるので、成形体密度は、好ましくは4.0g/cm³以上、より好ましくは4.5g/cm³以上とする。

【0040】成形体密度の高低によらず、溶浸後には、 通常、相対密度が95%以上となる。この場合の相対密 度とは、成形体中の空孔すべてに溶浸用合金が充填され たと仮定したときの磁石密度に対する実際に製造された 磁石の密度の比率である。

【0041】圧縮成形の際の成形圧力は特に限定されず、所望の密度の成形体が得られるように適宜決定すればよい。

【0042】なお、射出成形や押出し成形を行なう場合には、保形性を高めるために成形体用粉末にバインダを添加することが好ましい。バインダとしては、圧粉磁石や圧粉コア等に通常用いられているもののいずれであってもよく、例えば、ワックスなどを好ましく用いることができる。

【0043】成形時の磁界強度は、通常、10 k0e以上、好ましくは15 k0e以上とする。成形時に印加する磁界は、直流磁界であってもパルス磁界であってもよく、これらを併用してもよい。本発明は、圧力印加方向と磁界印加方向とがほぼ直交するいわゆる横磁場成形法にも、圧力印加方向と磁界印加方向とがほぼ一致するいわゆる縦磁場成形法にも適用することができる。

【0044】成形は、粉末の酸化を避けるために、通常、50℃以下で行なう。

【0045】 <溶浸>溶浸は、溶浸用合金をその融点以上まで加熱することにより行なう。

【0046】溶浸用合金の加熱手段は特に限定されず、電気炉や高周波加熱炉等のいずれを用いてもよいが、成形体も同時に加熱できる手段、例えば、電気炉を用いることが好ましい。成形体を溶浸用合金と同等の温度まで加熱することにより、成形体へ均一な溶浸ができる。

【0047】具体的な溶浸方法は特に限定されない。例 えば、溶浸用合金の融液に成形体を浸漬する方法や、融 液を成形体に注ぐ方法、融液に成形体の一部を浸して成 形体内に吸い取る方法などのいずれを用いてもよい。た だし、好ましくは、成形体と溶浸用合金とを接触させた 状態で、溶浸用合金を溶融する方法を用いる。具体的に は、成形体上に溶浸用合金を載置し、これを溶融するこ とが好ましい。溶浸用合金の融液に成形体を浸漬する方 法を用いてもよいが、この場合には、融液から引き上げ た後に、成形体の表面全面で溶浸用合金が凝固するた め、それを研削して除去する工程を設ける必要がある。 これに対し、溶浸用合金を必要量だけ成形体上に載置し て溶融すれば、溶浸後の成形体表面にはほとんど溶浸用 合金が残存しないか、あるいは成形体上面にわずかに残 存するだけなので、工程を簡略化することができる。し かも、この方法では、溶融時に溶浸用合金は成形体以外 と接触していないため、不純物の混入を防ぐことができ

【0048】成形体上に溶浸用合金を載置する方法を用いる場合、少なくとも成形体中の空隙を埋めるために必要な量の溶浸用合金を用いればよいが、実用的にはやや過剰の量を用いる。なお、成形体の空隙率は、成形体用合金の組成と成形体密度とから算出することができる。

【0049】溶浸用合金を成形体上に載置する形態は特に限定されず、例えば、粗粉やインゴットの砕片を所定量秤量して載置してもよいが、好ましくは、溶浸用合金の粗粉を成形し、これを載置する。溶浸用合金を成形体とすることにより、使用量の管理が正確かつ容易とな

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る。この場合、溶浸用合金の成形体は、成形体用合金の 粉末の成形体の上面とほぼ同形状でほぼ同寸法の下面を もつようにすることが好ましい。例えば、リング状磁石 を作製する場合には、溶浸用合金の成形体もリング状と する。これにより、成形体への溶浸をより均一に行なう ことができる。なお、2色成形と同様にして、成形体用 合金の粉末と溶浸用合金の粗粉とを、一体的に成形して もよい。

【0050】液相の溶浸用合金は成形体用合金粉末に対 する濡れ性が極めて良好であるため、溶融後、速やかに 成形体に染み込む。したがって、溶浸するだけであれば 融点以上まで加熱した後に温度保持を行なう必要はない が、保磁力および残留磁束密度を高めるためには、溶浸 後、さらに昇温を続けて、溶浸用合金の融点より高い温 度に保持する熱処理を行なうことが好ましい。この熱処 理における保持温度は、溶浸用合金の融点によっても異 なるが、好ましくは800℃以上、より好ましくは90 0℃以上である。ただし、磁石の主相となるR2 Tu B 相の結晶粒成長を抑制するために、保持温度は1100 ℃以下とすることが好ましい。この熱処理において、温 度保持を行なう時間は、好ましくは0.5~8時間であ る。この時間が短すぎると熱処理による効果が不十分と なり、長すぎるとR2 Tin B相の結晶粒成長が著しくな る。このような熱処理を行なっても、溶浸後の成形体は ほとんど収縮しない。

【0051】なお、上記熱処理は、溶浸後にいったん降温してから行なってもよい。

【0052】溶浸後、または上記熱処理後、時効処理を施してもよい。時効処理は、上記熱処理よりは保持温度が低い熱処理であり、時効処理により保磁力を向上させることができる。時効処理の際の保持温度は、好ましくは400~800℃、より好ましくは500~700℃である。また、温度保持時間は、好ましくは0.5~4時間である。時効処理は、上記熱処理後、冷却した後に施すが、上記熱処理の降温過程において徐冷することにより、時効処理と同等の効果を得ることができる。

【0053】なお、溶浸およびその後の熱処理は、溶浸用合金および成形体の酸化を防ぐために、真空中またはArガス等の不活性ガス雰囲気中で行なうことが好ましい。

【0054】<磁石>このようにして製造された磁石は、実質的にR2TuBから構成される主相と、この主相を包囲する副相とを有する。副相は、R2TuBよりもR比率の高いRリッチ相である。磁石中の副相の割合は、成形体密度によって異なるが、通常、20~40体積%である。Coおよび/またはCuを含有する溶浸用合金を用いた場合、副相中にはR3Co相および/またはRCu相が含まれ、溶浸用合金の組成によっては副相は実質的にこれらの相だけから構成される。

【0055】溶浸用合金にFeが含まれていた場合に

は、R。Co相のCoの少なくとも一部およびRCu相のCuの少なくとも一部がFeで置換されており、また、溶浸用合金にFeが含まれていなかった場合でも、主相からの拡散により、通常、このようなFeによる置換がみられる。

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【0056】また、溶浸用合金がCoおよびCuを含有するものであったときには、R。Co相およびRCu相が含まれ、R。Co相のCoの少なくとも一部がCuで置換されており、RCu相のCuの少なくとも一部がCoで置換されている。

【0057】R₃ Co相およびRCu相は磁石の耐食性 を向上させる効果を示し、RCu相の効果がより高い。 そして、R。Co相としてR。(Coinna x)相(0.01 \le w \le 0.3、0.01 \le x \le 0. 3)を含み、かつRCu相としてR(Cuira Fe.) 相 $(0.01 \le y \le 0.3, 0.01 \le z \le$ 0.3)を含むときには、耐食性向上効果は著しく高く なる。磁石中におけるこれらの相の含有率は、それぞれ 1~30体積%であることが好ましい。そして、磁石中 におけるこれらの相の合計含有率は、20~40体積% であることが好ましい。すなわち、副相は、実質的にこ れらの相だけから構成されることが好ましい。なお、こ のような場合でも、副相にはR酸化物相等の他の相が含 まれるが、これら他の相の磁石中の比率は、5体積%程 度以下である。磁石断面に現れるR₃Co相やRCu相 の径は、通常、50μm 以下である。

【0058】磁石の組成は、成形体用合金の組成、溶浸用合金の組成、これらの合金の比率などによって決定されるが、好ましくは、Rを30~60重量%、Bを0.3~6重量%含むものとし、より好ましくは、Rを35~45重量%、Bを0.6~1.3重量%含むものとする。なお、残部は、成形体用合金に由来するTおよび溶浸用合金に由来するMなどである。

【0059】<その他>磁石には、耐食性を向上させるために、必要に応じて樹脂の電着塗装や、無電解めっきおよび/または電解めっき等により防食被覆を設けてもよい。

【0060】本発明は、寸法精度が要求される薄肉の異方性リング状磁石や異方性板状磁石の製造に特に好適で40 ある。

[0061]

【実施例】以下、本発明の具体的実施例を示し、本発明 をさらに詳細に説明する。

【0062】<実施例1>まず、成形体用合金のインゴットを、Arガス雰囲気中で高周波溶解して鋳造した。 インゴットの組成は、重量百分率で

(30Nd-3Dy)-1. 2B-残部Fe

とした。この合金インゴットの平均結晶粒径は、120 μm であった。このインゴットを、窒素ガス雰囲気中で 機械的粉砕した後、ジェットミルにより窒素ガス気流粉

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砕し、平均粒子径4.5 μm の成形体用合金粉末とした。

【0063】この成形体用合金粉末を、15 k0eの磁界中で、磁界方向に直交する方向に $6t/cm^2$ の圧力を印加して圧縮成形し、 $10mx \times 10mx \times 10mm$ の立方体形状の成形体を得た。この成形体の密度は、 $5.20g/cm^3$ であった。この成形体の熱収縮開始温度は、 $650 \sim 700$ の範囲にあった。

【0064】次に、Arガス雰囲気中でアーク溶解により溶浸用合金を製造した。溶浸用合金の組成は、重量百 10分率で

85Nd-15Fe

とした。溶浸用合金の融点は、650℃であった。

【0065】次いで、成形体用合金粉末の成形体上に、数ミリ角に砕いた溶浸用合金を載置した。なお、溶浸用合金の使用量は、計算によって求めた成形体中の空隙量の3重量%増しとした。これらを電気炉により真空中で950℃まで昇温し、2時間保持した。溶浸用合金は、その融点付近で溶融して成形体に染み込んだ。冷却後、*

* 再び昇温して620℃に1時間保持することにより時効 処理を行ない、磁石サンプルNo. 1を得た。

【0066】成形体に対する磁石サンプルNo. 1の収縮率は、成形時の磁界方向で2.5%、磁界方向に直交する方向で1.4%であった。磁石の密度は7.40g/cm³(理論密度の98%以上)であり、焼結磁石と同等であった。サンプルNo.1の磁気特性は、残留磁束密度(Br)が9.1kG、保磁力(HCJ)が12.5k0e、最大エネルギー積{(BH)max}が19.7MG0eであった。

【0067】<実施例2>溶浸用合金の組成を表1に示すものとした以外は実施例1と同様にして磁石サンプルを製造した。表1に示す溶浸用合金はすべてが950℃までに溶融するものであり、サンプルNo. 2-8、2-10、2-12、2-13を除き、溶浸用合金の融点は700℃以下であった。これらのサンプルについて、実施例1と同様な測定を行なった。結果を表1に示す。

[0068]

【表1】

| | 111-71 / 22/07/20 1101/2 | | 丰(%) | | | | 磁気特性 | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| サンプル No. | 溶浸用合金組成 (重量%) | 磁界に 平行 | 磁界に 直交 | 密度 (g/cm³) | Br (kG) | HCJ (k0e) | (BH) max. (MGOe) | | | |
| 2-1 | 90Nd-10Fe | 2.8 | 1.7 | 7.38 | 8.9 | 13.0 | 18.9 | | | |
| 2-2 | 60Nd-30Cu-10Fe | 2.0 | 1.3 | 7.42 | 8.8 | 8.3 | 18.3 | | | |
| 2-3 | (65Nd-20P r) -15Fe | 2.3 | 1.7 | 7.40 | 9.0 | 14.1 | 19.4 | | | |
| 2-4 | (55Nd-15Pr-10Dy)-20Fe | 2.5 | 1.8 | 7.44 | 8.8 | 15.3 | 18.5 | | | |
| 2-5 | 80Nd-15Fe-5Co | 1.8 | 0.9 | 7.45 | 9.1 | 11.4 | 19.7 | | | |
| 2-6 | (30Nd-10Pr-30Ce-15Lz) -15Fe | 2.7 | 1.9 | 7.39 | 8.4 | 16.1 | 17.0 | | | |
| 2-7 | 85Nd-14Fe-1A1 | 2.5 | . 1. 4 | 7.36 | 8.6 | 13.6 | 17.6 | | | |
| 2-8 | (60Nd-25Pr) -13Fe-2B | 3.6 | 2.0 | 7.40 | 9.0 | 11.4 | 19.3 | | | |
| 2-9 | 80Nd-20Co | 1.2 | 0.1 | 7.50 | 9.2 | 12.9 | 20.2 | | | |
| 2-10 | 80Nd-15Fe-5Sn | 6.5 | 3.5 | 7.43 | 9.1 | 11.8 | 19.7 | | | |
| 2-11 | (56Nd-15Dy) -12Co-17Cu | 2.2 | 0.9 | 7.56 | 8.5 | 12.0 | 17.3 | | | |
| 2-12 | 79Nd-20Fe-1C | 6.8 | 2.7 | 7.43 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 22.6 | | | |
| 2-13 | 78Nd-20Fe-2Si | 7.2 | 3.8 | 7.42 | 10.0 | 11.5 | 23.6 | | | |
| 2-14 | 76Nd-12Ni-12Cu | 0.6 | 0.2 | 7.50 | 8.4 | 10.0 | 16.7 | | | |
| 2-15 | 85Nd-10Co-5Ni | 1.3 | 0.3 | 7.46 | 8.9 | 11.1 | 18.8 | | | |
| 2-16 | 81Nd-12Co-7A1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 7. 25 | 8.3 | 11.9 | 16.5 | | | |
| 2-17 | 85Nd-15Ag | 1.5 | 1.2 | 7. 50 | 9.1 | 10.3 | 19.6 | | | |
| 2-18 | 71Nd-12Co-17Cu | 1.2 | 0.4 | 7. 50 | 9. 0 | 12.3 | 19.3 | | | |
| 2-19 | 80Nd-15Co-5Ga | 0.8 | 0.3 | 7.49 | 9. 1 | 12.4 | 19.7 | | | |

【0069】<実施例3>成形体用合金の組成を表2に示すものとした以外は実施例1と同様にして磁石サンプルを製造した。表2に示す合金粉末の成形体の熱収縮開始温度は、すべて650℃以上であった。これらのサン

プルについて、実施例1と同様な測定を行なった。結果 を表2に示す。

[0070]

【表2】

| | | 収益 | 整(%) | 磁石 | | 进 気特性 | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|--|--|
| サンプル No. | 成形体用合金組成 (重量%) | 磁界に 平行 | 磁界に 直交 | 密度 (g/cm²) | Br (kG) | HCJ (kOe) | (BH) max. (MGOe) | | |
| 3-1 | 27Nd-72Fe-1B | 2.6 | 1.4 | 7. 42 | 9.7 | 6.1 | 22.0 | | |
| 3-2 | (21Nd-6Pr) -62Fe-10Co-1B | 2.6 | 1.4 | 7.55 | 9. 5 | 7.8 | 21.3 | | |
| 3-3 | (31Nd-1.5Tb)-66.3Fe-1.2B | 2.3 | 1.2 | 7.43 | 9. 2 | 10.2 | 20.1 | | |
| 3-4 | (29.5Nd-2Dy)-67Fe-0.5A1-1E | 3 2.4 | 1.4 | 7.45 | 9.3 | 10.6 | 20.6 | | |
| 3-5 | 30Nd-68.5Fe-1Be-0.5C | 2.6 | 1.6 | 7.41 | 9. 2 | 9.8 | 20.0 | | |
| 3-6 | 33Pr-61Fe-5Ni-1B | 2.5 | 1.4 | 7.40 | 8.9 | 11.4 | 18.9 | | |
| 3-7 | (26Nd-7Pr-3Dy)-62.5Fe-1.5E | 3 2.7 | 1.5 | 7.41 | 8.5 | 13.2 | 17.4 | | |
| 3-8 | 40Nd-50Fe-8Co-2B | 2.8 | 1.8 | 7.48 | 7.9 | 11.7 | 14.9 | | |

2.6

【0071】<実施例4>成形圧力を表3に示す値とした以外は実施例1と同様にして磁石サンプルを製造した。各サンプルについて、実施例1と同様な測定を行な*

(42Nd-2.5Dy)-54.2Fe-1.3B

*った。結果を表3に示す。

7.5

13.9

13.5

[0072]

7.44

【表3】

1.5

| | 成形体 | <u>. </u> | 収縮 | 壑 (%) | 磁石 | | 磁気特性 | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|--|-----------|-----------|---------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|--|--|
| サン プ ル No. | 成形圧力 (t/cm²) | 密度 (g/cm²) | 磁界に 平行 | 磁界に 直交 | 密度 (g/cm²) | Br (kG) | HCJ (k0e) | (BH) max. (MGCe) | | |
| 4-1 | 0.5 | 4.15 | 2.9 | 1.8 | 7. 38 | 7.2 | 11.6 | 12.4 | | |
| 4-2 | 1.0 | 4.40 | 2.8 | 1.6 | 7.40 | 7.7 | 11.4 | 14.1 | | |
| 4-3 | 2.0 | 4.70 | 2.4 | 1.4 | 7. 40 | 8. 2 | 12.3 | 16.0 | | |
| 4-4 | 4.0 | 4.95 | 2.5 | 1.4 | 7.41 | 8.6 | 11.9 | 17.8 | | |
| 4-5 | 6.0 | 5.20 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 7.40 | 9.1 | 12.5 | 19.7 | | |
| 4-5 | 8.0 | 5.40 | 2.8 | 1.6 | 7.41 | 9.4 | 11.8 | 21.1 | | |
| 4-7 | 10.0 | 5.55 | 2.4 | 1.5 | 7.41 | 9.7 | 12.4 | 22.5 | | |

【0073】なお、上記各実施例において、サンプルの 組成はすべてRを30~60重量%、Bを0.3~6重 量%含むものであり、各サンプルの相対密度は、すべて 98%以上であった。

【0074】<副相の構成>表4に示す磁石サンプルについて、副相の構成を調べた。表4のサンプルNo.5-1、5-2、5-3は、表4に示す溶浸用合金を用いた以外はサンプルNo.1と同様にして作製した。

【0075】表4の各サンプルは、成形体用合金の粉末に由来する主相と、溶浸用合金に由来する副相とを有していた。副相に含まれるR。Co相、RCu相、R相およびこれら以外の相の体積比率を、表4に示す。これらの体積比率は、いずれもサンプル全体に対する体積比率である。また、表4には、サンプル中に占める副相全体の体積比率も示した。これらの体積比率は、サンプル断面の走香型電子顕微鏡写真(組成像)を用いて測定した

各相の面積から算出した。サンプルNo. 2-18の断面写真を図1に示す。図1において、黒色の領域が主相であり、灰色の領域がRCu相であり、白色の領域がR。Co相およびR酸化物相である。サンプルNo. 2-11、2-18、5-1の断面に現われたR。Co相およびRCu相は、径が20 μ m 以下であった。各相の同定には、SEM-EDXおよびEPMAを用いた。

【0076】表4に示す各サンプルについて、耐食性を調べるためにプレッシャークッカー試験(120℃・100%RH)を行ない、100時間経過後に、サンプルの単位表面積あたりの重量変化量を求めた。結果を表4に示す。表4において重量変化量の符号がマイナスになっているのは、サンプル表面付近の粒界腐食により主相の脱落が生じたためである。

[0077]

【表4】

| サンプル | 浴浸用合金組成 | | 重量変化量 | | | | |
|------|------------------------|----|-------|-----|----|-----|----------|
| No. | (重量%) | 全体 | R₃Co | RCu | R | その他 | (mg/cm²) |
| 2-11 | (56Nd-15Dy) -12Co-17Cu | 35 | 13 | 20 | 0 | 2 | -0.01 |
| 2-18 | 71Nd-12Co-17Cu | 36 | 14 | 19 | 0 | 3 | -0.01 |
| 5-1 | 76Nd-3Fe-9Co-12Cu | 35 | 18 | 14 | 0 | 3 | -0.02 |
| 1-1 | 85Nd-15Fe | 34 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 13 | -53.67 |
| 5-2 | 86Nd-12Co-2Cu | 35 | 25 | 0 | 8 | 2 | -7.43 |
| 5-3 | 88.4Nd-11.5Co-0.1B | 35 | 19 | 0 | 14 | 2 | -27.30 |

【0078】表4に示す副相中の「その他」の相とは、 主としてNd酸化物相であるが、サンプルNo. 1-1で はNdFe相を主体とするものであった。

【0079】表4に示されるように、R。Co相およびRCu相の両方を有するサンプルNo. 2-11、2-18、5-1では、重量変化量が著しく小さく、耐食性が極めて良好であることがわかる。これに対し、RCu相を含まずR。Co相だけを含むサンプルNo. 5-2、5-3では、耐食性が低くなっており、R。Co相および20RCu相のいずれも含まないサンプルNo. 1-1では、耐食性が著しく低い。

【0080】なお、サンプルNo. 2-11、2-18、5-1において、R。Co相のCoの一部はCuおよびFeで置換されており、<math>RCu相のCuの一部はCoおよびFeで置換されていた。具体的には、<math>R。Co相の組成は、

R₃ (Co_{1-r-x} Fe_r Cu_x)

において

w = 0.25

x = 0. 23

であり、RCu相の組成は、

 $R (Cu_{1-y-z} Co, Fe_z)$

において

y = 0.10

z = 0. 12

であった。

【0081】なお、表1~3に示される各サンプルも、成形体用合金の粉末に由来する主相と、溶浸用合金に由来する副相とを有しており、サンプル中の副相の比率は、いずれも20~40体積%の範囲にあった。

【0082】<半焼結磁石との比較>成形体用合金として

18

29Nd-1B-残部Fe (重量%)

を用い、溶浸用合金として

85Nd-残部Fe (重量%)

を用い、溶浸を行なって磁石サンプルNo. 6-1を作製した。ただし、溶浸の際の熱処理は、前述した特開平3-80508号公報の実施例に準じて700℃で10時間行なった。

【0083】また、特開平3-80508 号公報記載の 方法に準じて、サンプルNo. 6-1 に用いた成形体に 400 ℃ $colored{C}$ で 0.5 時間熱処理を施した後、サンプルNo. 6-1 と同様にして溶浸を行ない、サンプルNo. 6-2 とした。

【0084】これらのサンプルについて磁気特性を測定した。この結果、サンプルNo. 6-1が、

Br = 8.6 kG

HCJ = 6.1 k0e

30 (BH) $\max = 1 3 \text{ MGOe}$

であったのに対し、サンプルNo. 6-2では、

Br = 8. 2 kG

HCJ = 5.1 k0e

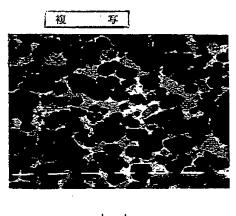
 $(BH) \max = 1 \ 1 \ MGOe$

であり、成形体の熱処理による磁気特性の劣化が認められた。

【0085】以上の実施例の結果から、本発明の効果が明らかである。

【図面の簡単な説明】

0 【図1】粒子構造を示す図面代用写真であって本発明の 磁石の断面の走査型電子顕微鏡写真(組成像)である。 【図1】



10 µn

【手続補正書】

【提出日】平成6年8月5日

【手続補正1】

【補正対象書類名】図面

【補正対象項目名】図1

【補正方法】変更

【補正内容】

【図1】

